

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-02 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY: EA/J-HLEVIN:FIM

EXT. 23152:10/18/73

EA/J - MR. LEVIN

EUR/CE - MR. HOPPER

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R 192042Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 207759

THE FOLLOWING TEL FROM BONN OCT 17, 73 TO SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN THE HAGUE LONDON PARIS ROME VIENNA
EC BRUSSELS NATO BRUSSELS GENEVA IAEA VIENNA
SALT TWO GENEVA AND USNMR SHAPE IS REPTD.

QTE C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 15061

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, GW

SUBJECT: PROBABLE OPPOSITION TACTICS TO NPT RATIFICATION

1. A RELIABLE SOURCE IN THE CDU CLOSE TO FLOOR LEADER
CARSTENS HAS TOLD AN EMBOFF THAT THE OPPOSITION WILL NOT
RPT NOT SEEK A VOTE ON FIRST READING IN THE BUNDESTAG OF
THE RATIFICATION BILL OF THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY.
INSTEAD THE OPPOSITION WILL RAISE SEVERAL QUESTIONS, TWO
OF WHICH THEY CONSIDER IMPORTANT:

A. NUCLEAR WEAPON POSSESSION BY SUCCESSOR
STATES AND,

B. THE RIGHT OF A CURRENT NON-NUCLEAR WEAPON
STATE, WHICH REFUSES TO RATIFY THE NPT, TO
OBTAIN NUCLEAR MATERIAL FOR PEACEFUL
PURPOSES FROM A NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATE.

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OUR SOURCE SAID THE CDU/CSU HOPES THAT THESE QUESTIONS

WILL BE SATISFACTORILY ANSWERED DURING DELIBERATION OF THE BILL AND THAT THEREAFTER A MAJORITY OF OPPOSITION DEPUTIES WILL VOTE FOR RATIFICATION.

2. COMMENT: SHOULD THE CDU/CSU OPPOSE BUNDESTAG RATIFICATION OF THE NPT, IT COULD NOT SUCCEED IN BLOCKING RATIFICATION AS THE SPD/FDP GOVERNMENT COALITION HAS A CONSIDERABLE MARGIN IN THE BUNDESTAG; FURTHER, CONTRARY TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF CSU LEADER STRAUSS (BONN 14948, PARA 1), BUNDESRAT ASSENT IS NOT REQUIRED FOR NPT RATIFICATION. ON THE OTHER HAND, BUNDESRAT ASSENT TO THE EURATOM VERIFICATION AGREEMENT WITH IAEA IS REQUIRED. SHOULD THE CDU/CSU UNANIMOUSLY OPPOSE RATIFICATION OF THE VERIFICATION AGREEMENT IN THE BUNDESRAT, THEN THE VERIFICATION AGREEMENT WOULD BE BLOCKED AND, AS STRAUSS SAID, THE NPT COULD NOT BE IMPLEMENTED. HOWEVER, THIS STRIKES US AS A MOST UNLIKELY PROSPECT; THE CDU HAS NO WISH TO DEFEAT THE VERIFICATION AGREEMENT. EVEN STRAUSS, WHO WISHES TO MAKE THE NPT HOSTAGE TO THE VERIFICATION AGREEMENT'S FATE, ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE VERIFICATION AGREEMENT WAS "EFFECTIVELY NEGOTIATED AND IS RELATIVELY SATISFACTORY". THE REAL ISSUES ARE THE SIZE OF THE MAJORITY THAT WILL SUPPORT RATIFICATION OF THE NPT AND THE VERIFICATION AGREEMENT, WHETHER THE CDU/CSU WILL GENERALLY VOTE "YES" OR "NO" ON THE TWO PACTS, AND STRAUSS' USE OF THIS DEBATE FOR INTERNAL PARTY POWER PURPOSES. CARSTEN'S CURRENT EXPECTATION IS THAT A MAJORITY OF THE CDU WILL VOTE YES.
HILLENBRAND

UNQTE KISSINGER

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